

Vacancy Details

Personnel Notice: 143-15
Date Announced: 12/08/2015
Closing Date: 12/18/2015
Command: PDGC
Grade: GS-14/15
Type: Associate Counsel

There is an anticipated opening for an attorney to serve as Associate Counsel in support of Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command (COMNAVSPECWARCOM) in Coronado, California. The incumbent serves under the supervision and guidance of Counsel to COMNAVSPECWARCOM in Coronado, California. NAVSPECWARCOM is an Echelon II major claimant command, which manages seven major subordinate commands, and develops strategy, doctrine, and tactics for Naval Special Warfare forces supporting Fleet and Joint Special Operations worldwide. Its headquarters is in Coronado, CA with subordinate activities concentrated in California, Virginia, Mississippi, Hawaii, and multiple foreign locations. This Associate Counsel position is located in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The incumbent provides the full range of OGC legal services, with an emphasis on acquisition and fiscal law, civilian personnel law, environmental law, and intelligence, ethics, and Freedom of Information/Privacy Act issues. The incumbent coordinates closely with the Counsel, COMNAVSPECWARCOM, the COMNAVSPECWARCOM Force Judge Advocate, as well as the component command Staff Judge Advocates. However, in the performance of the prescribed duties, the incumbent has wide latitude for independent decision and action. It is anticipated that the incumbent may need to travel up to 20% of the work year.

The successful candidate will have excellent communication, analytical, and interpersonal skills; outstanding skills in working with colleagues and clients; the facility to work on numerous issues simultaneously; the ability to perform in a fast-paced environment; and demonstrated experience and expertise in at least one of the areas of OGC legal practice discussed above, with an emphasis on acquisition and fiscal law.

Applicants will be evaluated on their: (1) demonstrated experience and expertise in acquisition (including litigation) and fiscal law; (2) communication, analytical, and interpersonal skills, including the ability to establish effective attorney-client relationships and to collaborate with legal and technical colleagues at all levels; (3) record of success in advising senior clients; and (4) interpersonal skills. Significant experience in civilian personnel law (including Equal Employment Opportunity matters, employee relations matters, and labor law), will be considered a plus, as is significant experience in handling environmental, intelligence, ethics, and/or Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act issues.

The position will be filled under the General Schedule (GS) at the GS 14 or 15 level, depending on the qualifications of the successful applicant, funding availability, and GS pay guidelines. To be eligible for selection at the GS-14 level, an applicant must have at least three and one-half years of relevant legal experience. A candidate may be selected at the GS-15 level if she/he has at least five and one-half years of relevant legal experience.

The successful applicant must have graduated from a law school that is accredited by the American Bar Association, be an active member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a State, U.S. Commonwealth, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia, and be admitted to practice before a state or federal court. U.S. citizenship is a requirement of the position. The successful applicant must possess a TOP SECRET clearance or be able to obtain such a clearance. The incumbent is subject to an initial and thereafter random counterintelligence and counter-espionage scope polygraph examination. This position is a testing designated position within the Department of the Navy's drug testing program; accordingly, the incumbent is subject to an initial drug test prior to employment and is subject to random, periodic drug testing thereafter.

Applicants should submit an SF-171, OF-612, or Resume; two legal writing samples (less than 10 pages each); law school transcript (if fewer than five years since graduation); and the two most recent performance appraisals, if available, to:

Ms. Deborah Sciascia, Counsel
NAVSPECWARCOM
2000 Trident Way, Bldg. 624
San Diego, CA 92155-5599
Email: deborah.sciascia@navsoc.socom.mil

Due to screening delays associated with regular mail, submission of application materials by email is preferred. Submissions may also be sent by Federal Express or similar express delivery methods.

Due to strict internet security and firewall requirements in place at the command, applicants that apply via email are encouraged to send a separate email without attachments or links to confirm that the application package was received with all portions of the application intact. Without such confirmation, the command is not responsible for and will not contact the applicants regarding sent applications that are received unreadable, incomplete, or not received.

Candidates selected for an interview may also be asked to provide the names and telephone numbers of at least three references (other than current supervisors) who may be contacted.

This personnel notice will close at 11:59PM (Eastern Standard Time) on December 18, 2015, and applications must be received by that time to be considered.

Interested attorneys may contact Ms. Deborah Sciascia at deborah.sciascia@navsoc.socom.mil or (619) 537-1926.

If the successful applicant is not currently a member of the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel, processing of the hiring action can only commence after submission of those items identified in the "Instructions for New OGC Attorneys" (see Careers section of www.ogc.navy.mil).

Applicants eligible for veterans' preference must specifically claim such eligibility in their cover letter, identify the basis for the claim, and include supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty or other supporting documentation) with their submission. Not all veterans are preference eligible. For a summary of time periods, campaigns, and conditions that entitle an applicant to preference eligibility, please visit www.opm.gov/veterans and review the "Vets Info Guide" and the "Vets Guide." There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference for attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel considers veterans' preference eligibility a positive factor in the attorney hiring process. Applicants who do not claim and do not provide adequate supporting documentation for veterans' preference will not receive the positive factor consideration.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy or gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement:
https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Reasonable_Accommodation_Policy_Statement

Legal and Regulatory Guidance: https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Legal_and_Regulatory_Guidance

If relocation expenses are a requirement, the applicant should state their requirement for this expense in the application package. Relocation expenses may be paid, but are not guaranteed.

Permanent Change of Station (PCS) funding may be available to those eligible.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION EMPLOYER

The Department of the Navy is an Equal Opportunity/ Reasonable Accommodation Employer. All hiring and advancement in the Office of the General Counsel is based on merit without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation or marital status.

The Department of the Navy provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should inform the individual identified in the personnel notice. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING

Department of the Navy attorney positions are in the excepted service, not the competitive civil service. There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. If you are eligible for veterans' preference in hiring, you are encouraged to include that information in your application along with the supporting documentation, e.g., DD 214. Not all veterans are eligible for veterans' preference. To find out if you are, you may visit the Veterans' Preference Advisor, operated by the Department of Labor at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/vets/vetpref/vetspref.htm>.